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L2: Entry 4 of 4

File: PGPB

Dec 6, 2001

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20010048448 A1

TITLE: Focus state themeing

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0036] As an application 135 is running it often requires a control or graphical component to be rendered, or displayed, on the monitor 191 of the computer 110. For example, with reference to FIG. 3, the display of an OK button 200 may be needed by the application on the monitor. Application 135 requests that an instance of button 200 be created. Following this, the operating system transmits a generic message to the control instructing it to draw itself. This request would be routed to the dynamic link library (DLL) that contained the particular control. As an example, the DLL in the WINDOWS operating environment would be called User32.dll or ComCtl32.dll(V5), shown as 208 and 210, respectively, in FIG. 2. Libraries 208 and 210 exist within graphical operating system 134. Libraries 208 and 210 are linked through fusion module 214 with applications 135. The defined control within libraries 208 and 210 contains the drawing code needed to render the control on the monitor. Therefore, to change the appearance of controls in libraries 208, and 210, the software drawing code must be changed for each control within libraries 208 and 210.

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0086] In operation, as is best seen in FIG. 6, an application 135 will request a graphic, such as a control, to be rendered on the user interface, as represented at 256. This graphical request is routed through fusion 214. As represented by 258, the fusion process will determine if the requested control is a theme-aware control. If the control requested is not theme-aware, the old code is used and the control will draw itself using a control from DLL 208 or 210, as represented by 260 in FIG. 6. If the control is theme aware, the graphical request is processed in DLL 212, as is represented by 262. The controls within DLL 212 will pass basic information for the graphical request, such as the part, state and location for the requested control to the theme manager 216 in a request for rendering services, using APIs 218, 220 and 222. Thus, the graphical request is processed in DLL 212 without application of the appearance characteristics that are found by theme manager 216. Theme manager 216 will then determine or apply the theme-specific appearance characteristics for the given control part and state, as shown by 264. This appearance data is retrieved from the shared memory map data file 252. Using the retrieved appearance data, for the requested control part and state, along with the location, the theme manager will render the control on the display of the computer, as represented by 266.

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